



FACT SHEET

December 12, 2011

We are proud to announce that Poplar Bluff VA Medical Center has been selected to host the 2012 Valentines for Veterans Concert on February 17, 2012 during National Salute to Veteran Patients Week. This selection was a result of the recent success in partnering with volunteers, VA employees, Veterans Service Organizations, businesses and the community during the 2011 "Valentines for Veterans" concert.

The Concert is an expression of appreciation and support for our Veterans from the VA and the community. The purpose of the celebration is to pay tribute to Veterans, increase awareness of the needs of hospitalized Veterans, and provide the public with an additional opportunity to express their appreciation for the sacrifices of America's Veterans. The concerts are also a great way for Veterans and their families to share time together. The divorce statistics of Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND) veterans are staggering – something the public often does not know. The concert events raise awareness of this issue, often leading to corporate partnerships and sponsorships to further promote the needs of Veterans.

The concerts are held near Valentine's Day and offer free admission to all who attend. There is no cost for the concert because "the price has already been paid" by this nation's Veterans.

The artist at the Poplar Bluff Valentines for Veterans Concert will be **Lee Greenwood**. Lee was voted Top Male Vocal Performance in 1985 for "I.O.U.". Also in 1985, he took home CMA Song of the Year honor as the writer of "God Bless the USA."

When is the concert?

Friday, February 17, 2012, with the ceremony beginning at 7 p.m. and the concert at 7:30 p.m. Ticket holders are asked to be seated not later than 7:15 or seats will be filled with standby ticket holders. Doors will open at 6 pm. **The general admission concert ticket reservations will begin January 3, 2012 the phone number is 573-778-4414.**

Where is the concert? The Black River Coliseum, 301 South 5th Street, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

How much does it cost?

- The concert is provided at no cost for admission and is open to the public. Tickets are required for admission limitations and will be distributed prior to the concert to serve as the pass to enter the concert.
- A number of tickets are being set aside for priority distribution to **Veterans**, with special attention being given to those who served during Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn (OEF/OIF/OND), **Gold Star Families** (families that have lost service members as a result of combat) special guests and dignitaries.

How can I assist?

- For additional information on how you may donate or volunteer please contact Donna Reynolds or Kevin Ellis, Voluntary Service, Poplar Bluff VA Medical Center, 573-778-4275 or 1-888-557-8262 ext 5-4275, 5-4276.

Note: This information sheet may be updated as more concert information becomes available.

The concerts also help promote VA outreach and ultimately further the VA's goal of providing top-notch care for our Veterans. In 2011, nearly 125,000 people were introduced to VA's "Salute" message through these concerts across the nation and hundreds expressed interest in volunteering for VA.

The funding for the entertainers for the concert is made possible through the generosity of Help Hospitalized Veterans (HHV) and community donations. The costs associated with hosting the concert are coordinated through donations through Voluntary Services at the VA. There is no cost for the tickets because: "The price has been paid by the sacrifices of Veterans". Enjoy the Show!!